WHEREAS, The President of the United States has proclaimed the week of March 31, 1974, to April 6, 1974, as National Action for Foster Children Week to call attention to the vital needs of foster children; and,

WHEREAS, These needs now constitute the Bill of Rights for Foster Children; and,

WHEREAS, In this area there are hundreds of foster children, who, through no fault of their own, have been deprived of a normal home relationship involving love, shelter, and other needs that are the basic rights of all children; and,

WHEREAS, Social agencies, both public and private, and dedicated foster parents, are attempting to provide these children with a temporary and permanent environment that will help them become the responsible citizens of tomorrow; and,

WHEREAS, They are finding it increasingly difficult to continue to provide the basic needs of these children, such as medical and dental care, education, food, clothing, and skilled social work; and,

WHEREAS, These ends can be met only by increased funding and concerted public effort on the part of all citizens, government and private agencies, legislators, and others responsible and concerned for the future of these children:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of March 31, 1974, to April 6, 1974, as

ACTION FOR FOSTER CHILDREN WEEK

in South Dakota, and call upon all citizens to volunteer their talents and energies to make real the provisions of the Bill of Rights for Foster Children and thus support the vital role played by foster parents in enabling these children to develop into mature, responsible and productive adults.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 29th day of March, in the Year of Our Lord, Ningteen Hundred and Seventy—Four.

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST! S Wesseth

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE